



## Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

Phone: 601-965-4575  
Facsimile: 601-965-5622  
[www.nass.usda.gov/ms/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/)  
[nass-ms@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-ms@nass.usda.gov)

Week Ending August 21, 2005

Released: 3:00 P.M., August 22, 2005

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending August 21, 2005**. With extreme temperatures and passing showers during the week, cotton and soybean farmers are hopeful that relief will arrive before harvesting is in full force. Drought-like conditions are being reported by Delta growers, and stress on these crops is once again on the minds of these farmers. Irrigation is being used, but is reaching a point where only a good soaking rain will benefit dry fields. Sweetpotato growers are gathering harvesting crews as some acres are being harvested this week. Soil moisture was rated 16 percent very short, 42 percent short, 39 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2004	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Dough	99	98	100	100	3	6	26	50	15
	Dent	92	85	98	97					
	Mature	61	47	87	77					
	Harvested	16	4	37	29					
	Silage Harvested	97	85	95	86					
Cotton	Setting Bolls	100	99	100	99	1	7	25	54	13
	Open Bolls	18	2	20	31					
Rice	Heading	97	96	100	95	0	2	13	70	15
	Mature	11	4	37	29					
Sorghum	Turning Color	98	95	97	96	0	1	12	81	6
	Mature	74	46	72	65					
	Harvested	12	--	21	16					
Soybeans	Setting Pods	100	99	100	98	3	7	23	55	12
	Turning Color	55	43	68	48					
	Shedding Leaves	33	22	48	31					
	Harvested	8	2	23	9					
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	2	--	--	5	0	2	20	57	21
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	86	83	73	79	--	--	--	--	--
Watermelons	Harvested	100	99	100	96	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						7	13	28	37	15
Pasture						8	24	37	28	3

### County Agent Comments

"Producers in Tunica county are experiencing a severe drought in most portions of the county. Dryland cotton is suffering and soybeans, especially dryland Group V beans and late Group IV, are close to the point where rainfall may not help much."

— Anthony Bland, Tunica

"We had some scattered showers during the week, but it is still dry in most areas. There were no major problems in crops."

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“The hot, dry weather is reducing yield potential for dryland cotton and Group V soybeans. Yield reports for corn and soybeans harvested this past week are good to excellent.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Corn harvesting in Madison County is well on its way. Soybeans are maturing at a rapid pace. Some of the Group V soybeans are in dire need of water. Cotton is suffering from dry weather conditions and high temperatures.”

— Otis L. Davis, Madison

“It is extremely dry!”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“Soybean harvest is underway. Yields vary from 25-65 bushels. Rice harvest will increase this week. Corn harvest has also started. Insects continue to be present but light.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Drought conditions continue and dryland crops are shutting down fast. Producers that can irrigate are about to give out of money and patience.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“It has been hot and dry. Most producers are still watering if they can, but it is getting close to being over for this year. Some beans are being harvested and the yields are fair, but it's too early to tell. This last dry spell has really made dryland cotton cut-out early.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“A rain would really help the beans. Corn is done, even under the pivots. Cotton is shedding more every day which is bad since we are now past the August 15 or 50% picking probability date. We could have really used those young bolls we lost this week.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Most producers should start harvesting some of their early corn this week. Indications point toward a better than average harvest for corn this year. Rain has been scattered at best. Beans and cotton are progressing rapidly.”

— Patrick Poindexter, Alcorn

“Dry weather has struck again with no relief in sight. Some fields are developing SDS. Later cotton is beginning to stick bolls now. Pastures are dry and burning up. Insect pressure is still light.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“Some showers fell in the Indianola area earlier in the week. Soybean, corn and grain sorghum harvest is underway but not at full swing yet. Cotton is beginning to open on a very wide basis.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Most corn fields are close enough to harvest and will not be damaged by this dry weather, but some later soybeans will be stressed. Many cotton fields are being forced into early cut-out and maturation by dry weather and high temperatures; yield reductions will be seen as a result.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Most corn fields are close enough to harvest to be affected by the extreme high temperatures. Some later soybeans will be stressed. Many cotton fields are beginning to cut-out and mature because of the hot, dry weather.”

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

“High temperatures and a lack of rain have begun to take a toll, reducing prospects on beans, cotton and pastures. Some scattered rains fell, mostly 1/4 - 3/4 of an inch in some locations. Crops are rapidly maturing under the hot dry conditions. Hay harvest continues.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Some soybeans have been harvested and the yields look good so far. There has also been some corn harvesting activities started. We will watch as this activity progresses and see what yields to look for this year.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“We received scattered showers over the county, but more rain is needed. This is acting as a reminder to farmers of the dangers associated with planting ryegrass too early.”

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“Farmers are attempting to harvest warm-season grass for hay between rain showers to reduce losses from fall armyworms. Producers are exploring ways to reduce costs of establishing ryegrass pastures in anticipation of high fertilizer, seed, and fuel costs.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“Cattle are showing marked improvement as grazing improves with recent rainfall. Cotton in the county is looking exceptionally good. The pecan crop is the best in the last five years and yields should be high if there is no damage from winds in the next two months.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

---

Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mississippi Cooperative  
Extension Service  
Dr. Joseph H. McGilberry, Director

Southern Regional Climate Center  
Louisiana State University  
Elizabeth Sanders  
Service Climatologist

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural  
Statistics Service  
Thomas L. Gregory, Director

**Weather Summary from August 15, 2005 to August 21, 2005 for Mississippi**

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Cleveland	99	73	86	81	+5	0.00	-0.30	0	0.80				
Lambert	100	72	86			0.22	-0.44	1	0.62				
Tunica	98	73	86	80	+6	0.00	-0.52	0	1.03				
Extreme/Average	100	72	86	80	+6	0.07	-0.49	0	0.82				
2. North-Central													
Calhoun City	98	71	84	79	+5	0.02	-0.68	2	0.94				
Hickory Flat	99	70	84	78	+6	0.00	-0.77	0	0.47				
Independence	100	72	85	79	+6	0.00	-0.66	0	0.13				
Oxford	101	72	86	79	+7	0.05	-0.72	1	1.07				
Extreme/Average	101	70	85	79	+6	0.02	-0.68	1	0.65				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	93	73	83	78	+5	0.03	-0.72	1	2.02				
Iuka	93	67	80	76	+4	0.70	-0.14	3	1.53				
Ripley	99	71	85	78	+7	0.33	-0.30	2	0.72				
Tupelo	98	73	85			0.46		1	2.22				
Verona	99	72	85	80	+5	0.18	-0.68	2	0.63				
Extreme/Average	99	67	84	79	+5	0.34	-0.36	2	1.42				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	100	60	82	81	+1	0.00	-0.49	0	0.81				
Rolling Fork	100	70	86	81	+5	0.14	-0.42	1	1.24				
Stoneville	98	72	86	81	+5	0.35	-0.07	1	1.18				
Yazoo City	98	70	85	81	+4	0.00	-0.74	0	0.74				
Extreme/Average	100	60	85	81	+4	0.12	-0.44	1	0.99				
5. Central													
Canton	99	68	84	81	+3	0.00	-0.70	0	0.61				
Carthage	98	71	85	80	+5	0.41	-0.36	1	2.53				
Eupora	98	70	83	79	+4	0.15	-0.48	1	0.79				
Lexington	98	67	84	79	+5	0.00	-0.63	0	0.21				
Extreme/Average	99	67	84	80	+4	0.14	-0.58	1	1.04				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	98	71	85	79	+6	0.44	-0.19	2	1.16				
Houston	97	69	83	78	+5	1.33	+0.67	2	2.67				
Philadelphia	99	72	85	80	+5	1.61	+0.82	2	2.69				
State University				80		1.15	+0.45	1	4.75				
Extreme/Average	99	69	84	80	+4	1.13	+0.43	2	2.82				
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	98	69	84	81	+3	0.17	-0.63	2	1.95				
Natchez	98	69	84	81	+3	0.05	-0.86	1	1.28				
Oakley				80		3.05	+2.21	1	5.18				
Vicksburg	98	71	86			0.00		0	0.19				
Extreme/Average	98	69	85	81	+4	0.82	-0.08	1	2.15				
8. South-Central													
Collins	95	72	84	80	+4	0.24	-0.65	2	6.25				
Columbia	97	71	85	81	+4	0.37	-0.62	2	3.62				
Tylertown	96	70	84	81	+3	0.53	-0.52	2	3.69				
Extreme/Average	97	70	84	81	+3	0.38	-0.60	2	4.52				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	97	71	84			0.72		3	4.08				
Hattiesburg	97	70	84	82	+2	0.15	-0.90	1	3.61				
Laurel	96	73	85	81	+4	1.51	+0.62	2	3.22				
Newton	100	66	82	80	+2	0.00	-0.84	0	1.60				
Extreme/Average	100	66	84	81	+3	0.60	-0.23	2	2.97				
10.Coastal													
Gulfport	94	73	84	82	+2	0.50	-0.76	1	7.30				
Poplarville				82		0.40	-0.68	2	2.11				
Waveland	94	73	83	81	+2	0.00	-1.23	0	4.41				
Extreme/Average	94	73	84	82	+2	0.30	-0.93	1	4.61				
State	101	60	84	80	+4	0.43	-0.36	1	2.20				

DFN = Departure from Normal.